



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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Camping Options Limited on Routt National Forest for Memorial Day Weekend

(STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo.) May 25, 2016 – Memorial Day weekend visitors to the Routt National Forest will find limited low-elevation access for roads, trails, and campgrounds, which is typical for this time of year.

While there are some opportunities to explore and camp, conditions are rapidly changing so Forest visitors are encouraged to call or stop by their local ranger district office before traveling to find out what is open and accessible.

On all units, travel on Forest may be difficult due to wet conditions. Please check forecasted weather conditions before your trip.

Many recreation areas, campgrounds and roads are still inaccessible due to snowpack or because of ongoing maintenance work. Respect these closures and do not try to drive around snow banks or barriers.

Remember that weakened or dead trees can fall without warning, endangering people and blocking roads. Recreationists should be aware of high-risk trees, especially in strong winds.

Although no fire restrictions are necessary, visitors are reminded to be careful with campfires and follow basic fire safety rules, such as, keeping your campfire small and under control.

Following are area-specific, Memorial Day weekend conditions on the Routt National Forest:

Hahns Peak-Bears Ears Ranger District – The following Developed Recreation Sites will be open:

- Fish Creek Falls - \$5 Day Use only
- Hahns Peak Lake East Side Day Use - \$5 Day Use only
- Hinman Campground - \$10 Fee (opening Thursday May 26) 13 sites available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

As a reminder, there is no camping/fires within a quarter mile of developed recreation sites, regardless if it is open or closed. More sites will open as snow levels recede and the crews can access the areas.

Parks Ranger District – The following campgrounds are open and ready for public use:

- Big Creek Lakes Campground (west side) - \$10 fee (The East loop is still snowed in and closed)
- Big Creek Day Use west side - \$5
- Teal Lake Campground and Day Use areas - \$10 camping, \$5 day use
- Aspen Campground - \$5
- Pines Campground - \$5

None of the sites have water yet, but trash dumpsters and toilets are provided at all locations. Big Creek Lakes is still half frozen, but will probably open up all the way by this weekend with forecasted weather conditions. The west boat ramp is open.

Yampa Ranger District – A couple sites are open for the weekend:

- Blacktail Creek Campground - \$10 fee, 8 sites, no water
- Bear River Dispersed - \$5, sites 1-22 are open, no water

On all three Routt National Forest districts, day-use fees are \$5.00 and daily campground fees are typically \$10.00. If services are not yet available to the public, then recreation areas may have reduced fees or no fees. Some campgrounds will have trash and toilet services available, however, the majority do not yet have water, so campers should plan to bring their own.

If campground reservations are necessary, they may be made through ReserveUSA by phone at 877-444-6777 or online at www.recreation.gov. Where available, reservations are recommended for holiday weekends such as Memorial Day.

For more information contact the following Forest Service Offices, visit our website at <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or follow the MBRTB on Twitter, @MBRNFsTBNG.

- Hahns Peak-Bears Ears Ranger District, 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO, (970) 870-2299
- Parks Ranger District, 100 Main Street, Walden, CO, (970) 723-2700
- Yampa Ranger District, 300 Roselawn Avenue, Yampa, CO, (970) 638-4516

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